or pretend to have, seized a number of letters indicating that a political movement was projecting to take place on the 15th January, and that the conspirators only awaited the signal of insurrection. A number of persons have been arrested at Ascoli. They confess to having committed 50 political assassinations since the year 1850."

the year 1850."

CONSPIRACIES AGAINST FOREIGN SOVREIGNS.

The Post says we feel as certain as belief can make us, that the Government must and will propose, on the opening of Parliament, a measure for the punishment of political assassins.

The Times points out that murder is a crime to the moral sense of all markind; not so the attempt to change a form of government—so while we need not make it equally a crime to plot a revolution at home or in some foreign country, there is much to be said for making it criminal to compass murder, whoever and wherever the intended victim.

A dispatch received in Paris from Persia says that the Hon. Mr. Murray, the English Plenipotentiary, is dangerously ill.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA. WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

The mail-steamer North of Europe arrived at Plymcuth yesterday afternoon. She left Fernando Pe on the 11th December, Lagos 25th, Acra 25th, Cape Coast 30th, Sieria Leone Jan. 6th, and Maderia 21st. The general health of the Coast was good, but in Benin and Biafra fogs were prevalent and payingtion programity dangerous. The share int and navigation necessarily dangerous. The slave-trade on the Const was brisk, but commercial affairs were dull. On the arrival of the Sunbeam at Fernando Po an attempt was to be made to relieve the crew of the Day Spring in the Ebo country.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.
THE STATE OF THE STATE OF

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The proposed Reception of Mohammed Pasha—The
resolution of Ald. Boole, to appropriate \$2,000 for the
reception of the Turkish Rear-Admiral, came up and

reception of the Turkish Rear-Admiral, came up and was discussed.

Ald TUCKER opposed an appropriation. The gentleman coming here was no more than English, French and Russian Admirals who had visited this city, and there was no necessity of such a reception. The idea was to furnish him with reoms at a hotel. This would be going too far. If there were parties interested in shipbuilding anxious for his reception, he hoped they would receive him and bear the expense. An officer of his rank had never been so received in the city. What if he was on a mission to contract with shipbuilders? He was nothing more than French or English gentlemen who had come over to buy flour or pork. He would propose that the Committee visit him after his arrival and had taken quarters, and tender him the freedom of the city; then to escort him

him after his arrival and had taken quarters, and tender him the freedom of the city; then to escort him to the institutions, and tender him the Governor's room for a public reception.

Ald. Bootz thought this proposition entirely useless, and advocated an appropriation.

Ald. Davies agreed with Ald. Tucker. It was only necessary to show the Admiral the public respect due him, and the Committee in carrying out the idea of Ald. Tucker would not require such an appropriation. He moved to amend by making the sum \$250. This was carried.

was carried.

Ald. McSrenov said the Committee could do nothing with such a small sum, in the way of n reception. He hoped, therefore, that the Committee would be discharged and the whole matter be laid on the table. A mere resolution tendering the freedom of the city would then be all that could be done. This motion Ald. BEADLET moved to reconsider-lost-and the

matter rested.

Bath-House Lease—The report directing the Controller to lease George Hall, a position for a bath-house outside of the Battery wall, was called up by Ald.

MURRAY and adopted.

Petitions Referred,—Memorial of property owners adverse to the opening of Albany street through Trinity Church yard, and complaining that they had not a fair chance to be heard. Of Mynderse & Co., in relation to steam fire engines. Sundry petitions for correction of taxes were referred to the Committee.

correction of taxes were referred to the Committee.

Sircet Cleaning.—Ald. Hoffmire offered a presumble in relation to the requirement of the Charter in matters of contract, and directing the City Inspector to advertise for proposals for the cleaning of the streets, the contract not to be less than \$100,000, nor more than \$350,000, to responsible parties, and report the same to the Common Council. Laid over.

The Tax Levy.—The report on the Tax Levy, passed the Councilsien, came up as a special order and was discussed.

Was discussed.

Ald McSrston said the matter had been taken from the Committee, who had agreed on certain amendments. He would move that these amendments be adopted.

Ald Stake moved as an exceptionent that the different state of the way agreed.

Aid. STARE moved as all excendenced that the different items be taken up separately. This was agreed to. The items were read without objections until reaching "Mount Morris square—regulating and grading," recommended to be struck out. Aid. Davits contended for the improvement of this square. The subject had been advocated for 22 years, and the people were anxious to have the square laid out.

Ald. Bools thought better to wait 20 years longer than saddle the city with any more Park expenses than were being incurred in laying out the Central Park.

Park.

Ald. McSernon opposed the expenditure of any money at present on Mount Morris square. It was moder-tood when the Central Perk was started that all the small squares in the upper part of the city be allowed to remain for a while.

Ald. Tecker said if the square was to be improved.

Ald. Tecker said if the square was to be improved, the moment the better; yet it might be well to lay the subject over to another year.

Ald. Stark knew it was necessary to open this square. The people called for it; and by improving the Park the city would be the gainer, for it would enhance the value of real estate in the vicinity and add to the taxable property.

The motion to strike out was finally lost and the item remained.

item remained.

Ald. Turken opposed the \$85,000 for printing, and advocated the previous figure of \$40,000. Lost.

The item of \$10,000 for a new Station-House in the

Tenth Ward was struck out.

The item of \$595,441 19 for arrearages being

Aid. Stark remarked, that in this he understood were \$10,000 for Fernando Wood for contesting the laws, and \$1,000 of an overcharge for Andrew J. Mc-Carthy for plumbing. He hoped these would be struck out, and offered a resolution to that effect.
Aid. McSrkoos said, in regard to the \$10,000 for Mr. Wood, the sum was incurred by order of this Board. He thought, even if the Mayor did say he would pay it himself, it was very unfair to expect such and unjust.

would pay it himself, it was very unfair to expect such and unjust.

Ald. Tecker said this action in opposition to the laws was all suggested in Messages to this Board by the Mayor, and the city on the other side would have to pay upward of \$20.000. It was not in a good cause, and should not be paid. The ex-Mayor had nearly plunged the city in a revolution by his acts, and it was unreasonable for him to come here to have his expenses paid. As to McCarthy's bill, it was an unlawful one, and the Controller had intended to contest it in the Courts. The Controller offered to pay him at a fair price, but McCarthy refused to accept, and now wanted to have his claim legalized by its insertion in the tax levy.

Ald. Stare said that all knewthat Fernando Wood

Ald. STARR said that all knewthat Fernando Wood Aid. STARR said that all knew that Fernando Wood resisted the laws to elevate bimself, and if the levy went in this shape to the Legislature it would never pass. The Governor would never sign it. And hundreds and thousands awaiting their money from the city would have to suffer for months to come.

Aid. Twomer would rather the Levy would not pass, if the \$10,000 were not in it, although he did not care for Fernando Wood.

The major to strike out.

for Fernando Wood.

The motion to strike out was put and lost by 7 to 10.

Ald. Willmor offered a resolution to add \$12,000, to build a new station-house in the Twenty-second Ward. Adopted.

Ald. STARR offered a resolution, adding \$13,000 to

Ward. Adopted.

Ald. STARK offered a resolution, adding \$13,000 to the Levy, to defray the expenses of the Police Commissioners in defending the constitutionality of the Metropolitan Police law. The matter he said had been discussed before the Committee, and it was agreed not to put in the Wood \$10,000 without the \$15,000 for the other side.

Ald. Gerrocory contended for the same.

Ald. McSpedon opposed it, and denied that any such agreement had been made in the Committee. It must be thought to have been a misunderstanding.

Ald. Tucker thought that this item, although the levy was large, should be put in, for the Commissioners in defending the laws did their duty. The city would have to pay this bill under any circumstances, and it would be better to put in the \$13,000 than to have to take it out of some other appropriation. He hoped the levy would pass, so that all parties would be satisfied, and the thousands of men who had money due them from the city, relieved. If the Mayor had done his duty as a Police Commissioner, and allowed the old police to go over to the new, there would have been no trouble.

Ald. Owers looked moon the resisting of the laws

would have been no trouble.

Ald. Owass looked upon the resisting of the laws by the Mayor as a disgrace upon the city, and contended for the payment of the legal expenses incurred by the Commissioners.

by the Commissioners.

Ald. Adams looked upon the question as a political Ald. ADAMS looked upon the question as a political one, and urged the Democratic members to stand up for their rights. He was opposed to the Commissioners' expenses, and thought they should be borne proportionately by the four counties comprising the district.

Ald. Twomer suggested that the Police Commissioners could pay this out of their regular fund.

fixtures having been subsequently added. The Committee remark:

"This userpation can readily be accounted for, when it is known that Mr. George Law is President of the said Ferry Company, as well as assignee of three quarters of the contract for the sell-general of the Battery; and it will be seen that through the agency of Mr. Law, who, as contractor for the Battery Enlargement, claims the use of the lead until his contract is compiled, the city is not only deprived of the advantages of the composition of the said Battery Enlargement, but the contractor has been permitted to many one of its most valued chartered rights.

"The Committee cannot find the slightest pretext of subscript to warrant the above Company in this appropriating to their use one of the must valuable translates of this city. A. Law, upon being questioned, frankly admitted that the Company had no authority, nor flid they claim any, for this encroachment on the vested rights of the city. The city, by this arrangement, is doubly the loser. The culargement of the Battery, which has already been delayed beyond all reasonable time, is readered by this new ferry a source of profit to the contractor, or his astrone, who by this delay avoids the payment to the city treasury of the amount of reat which would accuse to it from the lease of the ferry so usurped by this Company, and which is variously estimated at from \$5,000 to \$5,000 per annum—a read addeduct, even in the absence of any other, although many exist, to have said ferry discontinued, and that the Controller take immediante possession of the property, to prevent further treephers. Also that the Mayor be requested to aid the Controller by all the authority vested in him to carry out the object. The paper was read and adopted.

Mohammed Pasha.—Ald. Booler remarked that he

read and adopted.

Mohommed Paska.—Ald. Bools remarked that he thought the Board had disgraced itself to-night by not adopting the appropriation of \$2.000, but he noped the Admiral would be waited on and tendered the freedom of the city. He wanted a Committee appointed for the same—and offered a resolution that Mohammed Pasha be waited upon on his arrival by the Mayor and Committee, who would tender him the freedom of

Turks in all and seventeen Aldermen, that each Alder

Tinks in all and seventeen Aldermen, that each Alderman take charge of a Turk. [Laughter.]
The resolution was adopted, and Ald. Boole, Bradley and Reade were appointed as the Committee.
The Word's Island Purchase—Report to Rescind.—The Committee on Lands and Places, on the resolution of Ald. Tucker to rescind the resolution passed Bec. 31, 1857, to purchase certain lands on Ward's Island, made a report. The Committee report that it appears from the testimony taken at their meeting that no public emergency requires the immediate purchase of these lands, as the city new owns more ground on Ward's Island than will be necessary to bury the poor for many years to come; and further, that the condition of the treasury will not warrant so large an expenditure at this time as will be sufficient that the condition of the treasury will not warrant so large an expenditure at this time as will be sufficient to buy the same. The Committee are unanimously of the opinion that it would be unwise for the Common Council to leave so important a matter to arbitrators. They therefore, in view of all the facts, recommend that the resolution to purchase be rescinded and re-neated.

that the resolution to purchase be rescinded and repealed.

Ald. Boolf moved to lay the paper over so that the members could have time to think of the subject.

Ald. Tucker moved for a reference to the Counsel. He thought the resolution passed Dec. 31, was binding, and could not be rescinded.

Ald. Tucker opposed any delay; such was dangerous, as the arbiters might in the meantime go on and complete the negotiation. It was a most outrageous wrong to leave such a measure to two men, and the city would doubtless have to pay, four times the value of the land, if the Compon Council failed to act promptly. The city did not want the land. It had enough on Ward's Island to bury the poor for a thousand years to come. Island to bury the poor for a thousand years to come.

Ald. Boole asked to have the paper laid over till

Monday night that he might have time to look into

the matter.

Ald. Reade did not see any reason for laying over \$150 an acre, and about \$0,000 an acre is asked. The referces or arbiters would involve the city in an expense of \$120,000 ar \$250,000 if they were not stopped. The land did not belong to Mr. McCotter, and that party only went into the negotiation as a speculation, and to wrong the city. He hoped not a moment would be lost in reschiding.

Ald. Owens also spoke of the necessity of immediate action against the purchase. If the paper went over, by Monday the job would be accomplished.

went over, by Monaay the 100 weda or belief plished.

Ald Adams said be opposed the project in the other Board, but it had been pushed through by the previous question. He uncerstood the nature of the negotiation: McCotter, an agent, is offering for sale what don't belong to him. That party had been hunting for the owners through Ohio, Indiana, and other places, but, in the mean time, tried to force a bargain to the disadvantage of the city.

The motion to lay over was lest by 10 to 6. The motion to adopt the report was then carried.

motion to adopt the report was then carried.

After the reference of sundry papers, the Board adnurned to Monday.

THE ALLEGED FRAUDS IN THE CONTROL-LER'S OFFICE. THE INVESTIGATION IN THE CASE OF J. B. SMITH RESUMED.

RESUMED.

The investigation of the alleged charges of fraud against Mr. J. B. Smith, was resumed before Recorder Barnard yesterday afternoon in the Court of Sessions room. The prosecution proposed first to examine Mr. John Brennigan, which was opposed by Mr. Graham, until Mr. Flagg should have been placed on the stand and cross-examined by the defense. He contended that the prosecution was bound to examine the complainant in the case before producing any of his witnesses.

Mr. Whiting, on the part of the prosecution, in reair. Whiting, on the part of the prosecution, in reply said there was nothing in the statutes that prescribed that course; that they were at liberty to examine him first or last, as they deemed best calculated
to promote the interest of the public.

Mr. Graham contended that the statutes did prescribe that the complainant in the case should first be

xamined, and then his witnesses.
The Recorder remarked that although such a course The Recorder remarked that although such a course lor acting otherwise, which he had no right to inquire into: and he would not undertake to compel the prosecution to interfere with the order, in which the counsel for the people had arranged to produce their evidence in the case. After noting the objections of Mr. Graham, the Recorder directed the examination of the proposed witness to proceed.

proposed witness to proceed.

John Brennigan, sworn, and examined by Mr. Whiting-Q. What is your business? A. I am the first
general clerk in the Street Department. Q. Under whom? A. Charles Devlin. Q. Is that all your business? A. Yes, Sir, that is

ll my business.
Q. How long have you been the clerk of Mr. Dev-A. Ever since his appointment, on the 16th o

17th of June last.

Q. Have you ever been appointed a clerk or attorned of Mr. Fitzpatrick? A. I do not know that I had before that; I have since that time.

Q. How long since? A. Since some time in Novem-

Q. Have you acted as clerk of Mr. Fitzpatrick at any time, and if so, did you at his request collect assessments on a contract for paving Forty-ninth street, between Sixth and Eighth avenues? A. Mr. Fitzpatrick gave me an order upon the Controller, and told me to take it with me, as I was in the habit of going

Was it in the handwriting of Mr. Fitzpatrick Q. Was it in the handwisted.
A. Yes, Sir.
Q. What did he say when he gave you the order
Q. What did he say when he gave you the order.

Mr. Graham objected to the question.

The Recorder remarked that in another case, the previous day, a similar question was put and admitted.

Mr. Graham contended that such a course of procedure would be perfectly disgraceful, worrying out of the witnesses answers which they did not mean to give.

Mr. Whiting replied that he did not know what he Mr. Whiting replied that he did not know what he meant by disgraceful conduct. If the accused was innocent the testimony of this witness would go to prove it. If, on the other hand, he had received this \$10,000, the sconer it was admitted the better for themselves. The investigation was merely to see whether the party should be held to ball and the case sent to the Grand Jury.

The Recorder ruled in favor of the admissibility of

Mr. Whiting—Please state what directions Mr. Fitzpatrick gave you at the time he delivered to you the order. At the request of Mr. Graham, it was noted that the latter objected to the question on the ground that the order should be first submitted to the witness.

Q. What was said to you by Mr. Fitzpatrick at the time he gave you the order? A. I have no recollection of any directions being given me—none whatever.

Q. Did he say nothing when he gave the paper to you? A. I don't remember.

Q. Did he tell you where to go with it? A. I don't remember.

than contained in that.

Q. While these contracts were invested in the Bowery Bank did you receive money on account thereof.

Objected to by Mr. Whiting.

Mr. Graham stated that he wanted toknow whether witness had not collected money on the contracts for Bowery Bank, and which contracts were subsequently reassigned by the Bowery Bank to Mr. Fitzpatrick.

Q. I understand you to say that you have no recollection of what money you secured under these contracts? A. No. Sir.

tracts? A. No, Sir.
Q. Have you any recollection what you did with
the money you received? A. No, Sir. Q. Have you any reconcerton

A. No, Sir.

Q. So far as you know, had Mr. Fitzpatrick any
knowledge of what was in that receipt? A. No, Sir.

Q. Now, at the time you went for money on that oc-

Q. Where did you go with it ? A. To the Con-Q. How came you to go to the Controller's office.

Q. How came use I knew it was there it was addith it. A. Beck use I knew it was there it was addithed to the controller's office. dressed to.

2. What did you sa, when you went to the Con-troller's office?

Mr. Graham and ruled out

relier's office? Question objected to by Mr. Graham and ruled out

ber: I think not.

Q. What did you do with the order? A. I gave it to Mr. Smith. I presume. I do not remember distinctly; I did so much of that kind of business that I do not remember.

Q. Did you deliver to Mr. Smith any other papers at the time? A. I do not remember.

Q. Your memory is not very good then, is it? A. It is pretty good.

G. Did you say anything to Mr. Smith, when you

It is pretty good.
Q. Did you say anything to Mr. Smith, when you gave him the order? A. I don't remember, but pre-

Q. Did you ever collect any money for that work?

Mr. Graham objected to the question, whereupon a receipt book was produced by the prosecution and hunded to witness, whose attention to a particular entry was directed.

O Be M. Willer

Q. By Mr. Whiting-Did you ever sign that receipt

Q. Yes, Sir.
Q. If Mr. Fitzpairick did not send you for money

Q. If Mr. Fitzpatrick did not send you for money on this centract, how came you to go for it? Question objected to and ruled out.
Q. How came you to sign that receipt? A. Mr. Smith requested me to sign it.
Q. How did you know what amount you were to receive. A. I never was sent for any specific money; never in my life; I would ask Mr. Smith if there was my money for me, as there was money coming to Mr. Fitzpatrick for different contracts.
Q. What did you do with the money you received that day? A. I cannot say; I presume I gave it to Mr. Fitzpatrick.
Q. What is the amount you received? A. \$12,-823 10.

Q. What did you receive it in ? A. In bonds and a

warrant, I believe; the receipt does not describe it.
Q. Was that the first money you had received for
Mr. Fitzpatrick? A. No, Sir; I had received money
often before for him.
Q. On the day that receipt was signed, did you give
Mr. Snith the written paper of order at the time.

tum for the Controller? A. No. Sir.
Q. What office did you fill at the time? A. The same that I do now.

Q. Did you get the bonds on the day you handed the order! A. I do not remember whether I got the

bonds that day or not.
Q. Why did not Mr. Fitzpatrick go himself that day for the money? A. I do not know, Sir.
Q. Is that the paper [the order being here handed to witness] you handed to Mr. Smith that day? A. I

presume it is the same.
Q. Did you ever before see that paper? [a memorandum made out by Mr. Smith.] A. No. Sir, not that I know of; it is a statement of Mr. Smith to the

Controller.
Q. Do you keep books for Mr. Fitzpatrick? A.

Q. Is that one of the bonds you received? [One bonds handed to witness.] A. This is a bond for \$5,000, dated November 23. I presume this is one of the

It is, Sir.
Q. Do you know the one before it? A. I do, Sir.
It is Mr. Charles Devlin's, an assignment to Hawley

and Bradford.
Q. Did you know the assignment was executed? A.

did not.

Q. When was the assignment made, there is no date

Q. Have you been intimate with him? A. Very in-

Q. Are you strong personal friends or not? A. Yes,

Q. Have you ever communicated to Mr. Fitz-patrick what is in that receipt ! A. No, Sir. Q. I understood you to say that you signed that re-ceipt, supposing it to be all right; is that so! A.

the Court and leaving it at the Controller's office?

A. I do.

Q. Who did you leave it with?

A. With Mr.

Q. How long was it before this receipt was signed

A. Some two or three days.
Q. Who did you get the bonds from on the order of the Court? A. From Mr. Dykeman.
Q. Who is Mr. Dykeman? A. The Stock Clerk, I

Q. Had you seen Mr. Smith between that and signing this receipt? A. I don't recollect.
Q. Did you see any papers that Mr. Dykeman had when he issued these bonds? A. I don't recollect.
Q. Had he ever issued any bonds before that? A.

Q. Had he ever issued any bonds before that? A. Yes, sir; frequently,
Q. Did you see any bundles of papers about him?
A. I have seen him have papers about him, but I cannot say at that particular time; the papers were often made out ready for me: the usage was, Mr. Smith would take a piece of paper to Mr. Dyckman, then return to the Controller and get him to sign it.
Q. Do you remember, at the time of signing the paper, whether there were any assessment rolls about him? A. I don't recollect.
Q. Would you know an assessment roll if you saw it? A. I would. It was common to see assessment rolls there, and consequently I paid no attention to them.

dem.

Q. Did any conversation pass between you and Mr.
bykeman at the time these bonds were delivered? A.
don't recollect. There may have been.

Q. Had you any other power to give receipts, than
his power of attorney? A. No, Sir. None other
han contained in that.

casion, did you know how much money you were going to get? A. No, Sir; not the slightest.

Q. Did you know at that time how much money was due to Mr. Fitzpatrick on the couracts?

Objected to by Mr. Whiting, who contended that it was perfectly absurd to go and receive money without knowing on what contract they are going to receive it—and the defense could not be allowed to testify that larger sums were due without bringing the proof.

The Recorder noted down the question and promised to decide upon its admissibility on resuming its recordination. Question objected to by Mr. Granam and ruled out by the Court.

Q. Did you speak to any and in the Controller's office? A. I don't recollect.

Q. Did any one in the Controller and on that particular occasion. I went there so frequently that I could not describe that visit particularly.

Q. On Mr. Fitzpatrick's business, before that it me?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you get any money, or any papers, when you went there with the order? A. I do not remember; I think not.

Q. What did you do with the order? A. I gave it to Mr. Smith, I presume. I do not remember dis-

mised to decide upon its admissionity on resuming its investigation.

Q. By Mr. Whiting—Did you read that order of the Court before you left it? A. No. Sir.

Q. Who gave it to you? A. I do not remember: either Mr. Fitzpatrick or Mr. Stillwell; it was a legal paper, and I was desired to hand it to Mr. Sunth.

Q. Did you not look at it? A. I did.

Q. Did you not know that you were receiving yoney under any particular contract? A. No. Sir.

Did you read the check? A. I don't remem-

ber.
Q. Dia, t for paying Forty-ninth street. A. I on the contra. he had such contract; I never heard never knew that

of it till now.

After some further until Wednesday next at 10

COMMITTEE ON FRAUDS. The Aldermanic Committee on Frauds resumed

gave him the order? A. I don't remember, but presumed I did.
Q. Would you know the order again if you saw it?
A. I think I should.
Q. Did you ever take any other orders for Mr.
Fitzpatrick? A. I presume I did; he never gave me but one power of attorney to collect money: I only took one written paper with his name signed to it.
Q. Did you ever go, at the request of Mr. Fitzpatrick to the office of the Controller to collect money for paving Forty-ninth street, between Sixth and Eighth avenues? A. No, never.
Q. Did you go at the request of anybody else? A. No, Sir. their investigations, in the matter of the regulating of Fifty-second street, yesterday.

Mr. J. B. Smith referred to to the testimony of Mr. McNeill, the assessor. Mr. McNeill insists that in the certificate of the Street Commissioner, the price for curb and guttering was \$1.50, instead of 50 cents per foot; but that would make an overcharge of \$1.80, while the overcharge complained of was only \$1.30, McNeill accounted for too much. Mr. McNeill says his figures are right. Mr. Dodge, the surveyor, says they are not; that his figures are right, and the specifications in the hands of the Street Commissioner allow that there is an overcharge of \$1, per foot, here show that there is an overcharge of \$1 per toot, be-side a difference of other figures. Mr. Smith then submitted comparisons of the true and fabe charges

> Mr. McNeill was re-examined and reiterated the statements which he made at the previous meeting.
>
> Mr. Colvin, a clerk in the Street Commissioner's Department, was next examined. He showed by documentary evidence that Farley was performing the work, and that the Inspector certified to the progress of the work under Mr. Farley every two weeks, from Nov. 14, 1856, to April 24, 1857, and later; he had been a clerk in the Street Department since 1856, and he knew that there was not one assessment-list in a thousand that was not deferred from two weeks to six menths after a job is finished; in this case there was only five days from the time McGrave made the contract (June 5, 1857), to the time Mr. Turner made the requisition (June 10). Turner signed the requisition while Taylor lay dead in his house; he says the ordinance gives the Street Commissioner power to give a contract to the next lowest bidder when the lowest resigns by letter or otherwise; the ordinance does not give any such power—it merely says that he shall award it, but his award must be confirmed by the Common Council; witness cited valous procedures on this point; this award was the so says that he shall award it, but his award must be confirmed by the Common Council; witness cited various precedents on this point; this award was not so confirmed; if there had been any letter from Farley resigning the contract he would have known it, as it was his business to file all such letters; he could not find this letter anywhere; Mr. Taylor was away from the office a great deal, and Turner always acted in his absence; it was also customary for Taylor to rely upon Turner a great deal in the business of his office; Mr. Tayroer did sign the McGrave contract, and must have known that it was fraudulent, unless he was either a known that it was fraudulent, unless he was either a

known that it was transment, unless he was either a knave or a fool.

The Committee closed the case and called up the Seventy-pinth street complaint. Parties not being ready, the investigation was adjourned to Monday

A NEW BUILDING IN THE PARK. The Committee on Repairs and Supplies met yester-day aftermoon to consider the resolution referred to them, proposing the erection of an iron building in the Park, 300 feet long by 100 wide, for the accommo-

the Park, 300 feet long by 100 wide, for the accommodation of the Courts and City Government purposes. Several prominent architects, who had been invited to attend and give their views, were present.

Mr. Thomas Thomas, ir., suggested that, as the Committee did not know what kind of a building would best suit, each architect furnish his plan, accompanied with a description, and submit the same at the next meeting.

No. Sir.
Q. Did you make an entry of the money you received for Mr. Fitzpatrick anywhere? A. No. Sir.
Q. Is that the warrant you received? [one handed
to witness.] A. It may be; the amount is the same.
Q. Whose names are those indorsed upon it? A.
The names of John Fitzpatrick and Charles Devlin are cated November 23. I presume this is one of the bonds, but I do not know. Q. Is that Mr. Fitzpatrick's assignment on the back of it? A. It is.

Q. When was the assignment induction in a count? A. No, Sir, there never is.
Q. Where did Mr. Devlin keep his account? A. He had an account at the Bowery Bank.
Cross-examined by Mr. Graham—Q. How long have you known Mr. Fitzpatrick? A. More than seven

best suit, each architect furnish his plan, accompanied with a description, and submit the same at the next meeting.

Ald. Trowar, the Chairman, said that the city was now paying \$30,000 a year for office reut, outside of the real estate of the city. It was more with the view of crecting a temporary building that the Committee met, until the agitated question of the location for a new City Hall should be settled. The object now was to get as cheap a building as possible immediately erected, and the Committee would not confine themselves to an iron building.

Ald. Troker was not of the Committee, but attended on invitation, and suggested that a two or three story building, with an elevation of two steps from the walk, be erected of iron, as such could easily be removed and sold to advantage at any time. This, he thought, was all that was necessary at present.

Ald. McKerdon said the parties preparing to establish steam fire engines in the city wanted a location, and he thought the Park was the best for that purpose. He suggested that they have accommodations for five or six engines in the proposed new building. To get different locations for them would cost the city upward of \$100,000, and this could be saved by affording accommodations in the Park. It was down town that these engines would always go to fires first, being the most easily managed, and the others were intended as auxiliaries.

Ald. Troker thought it better to put up a special building for the steam engines in one corner of the Park. Sir.

Q. Do you know how many contracts with the city he was interested in at the time he executed this power of attorney in April, 1857? A. Some four or five.

Q. How many was he interested in in November, 1857? A. About the same number.

Q. Have you any idea of the aggregate amount of the contracts he was interested in in 1857?

Mr. Whiting objected to the question, and Mr. Graham contended that he had a right to show by this witness that near \$10,000 were due to Mr. Fitzpatrick

building for the steam engines in one corne Park.
The Committee were not settled as to all the pur

poses to which the new building could be adapted, and concluded to have another meeting, and then give the architects their ideas to work upon.

ham contended that he had a right to show by this witness that near \$10,000 were due to Mr. Fitzpatrick at the time the \$12,823 were received.

Q. Did you read the receipt at the time you signed it? A. No, Sir, I never did.

Q. When did you first know what was in that receipt? A. Some three weeks ago, when I first saw it with a receipt? METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSIONERS. The Board met yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock.
All the members present.
Various charges were brought against various and Q. Did you know positively what was in the re-ceipt until it was exhibited here the day before yes-terday? A. I first had intimation of it from the newspapers, and then I saw it here the other day in

Various charges were brought against various and several policemen, who were variously punished by reprimand and suspension from pay. One man, in Brooklyn, for paying too much attention to a lady of doubtful reputation, and other "serious" matters, was discharged. One man for going after a glass of water, with a slight suspicion of a "stick in it," was suspended for one day from payment. Gen. Nye reported the case of a man who was charged with being it blockly discussed."

ported the case of a man who was charged with being slightly disguised."

Mayor Tiemans—What do you mean by being slightly disguised?

Gen. Nye—I suppose it means drunk.

Mayor Tiemans—Then why don't you say drunk?

Gen. Nye—I suppose he was not very drunk.

Mayor Tiemans—Then why not say half drunk?

The "slightly disguised" man was suspended from payment for 15 days, with a warning to beware of all discusses in future.

reipt, supposing it to be all right; is that so? S. Yes, Sir.

Q. Had you ever received money before, from the Controller's office? A. Yes, Sir.

Q. In how many instances? A. I cannot tell; in numerous instances.

Q. Have you in any instance paid attention to the contents of the receipts? A. No, Sir.

Mr. Whiting—He says he never read them.

Witness—No, Sir, I never did.

Mr. Grabam—Have you any idea when you deposited the order. A. No, Sir.

Q. Do you ever remember carrying an order from the Court and leaving it at the Controller's office?

A. I do. disguises in future.

The Quarterly Report of the Superintendent of Police was received and read.

The report was referred to the Committee on Finance, with power to print not exceeding 250 copies

Mayor TIEMANN said that he had been frequently Mayor FIEMANN said that he had been frequently called upon to provide policemen for different places of worship where boys and rowdies were in the habit of making a disturbance. He therefore moved that the captains be instructed to allow their men to attend at such places of worship as required it, when consistent with their other duties—which motion was carried.

The Board then went into secret session.

THE UNAUTHORIZED FERRY. THE UNAUTHORIZED FERRY.

The Committee on Ferries had an adjourned meeting yesterday to ascertain by what authority the Staten Island Ferry Company had used the dock built by the Battery Enlargement contrator, for ferry purposes but the contractor, ex-Street Commissioner, engineer and others notified, failed to appear. The Committee announced their intention to report immediately on the gross injustice done the city in this matter, and then adjourned sine die.

AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the above Society was held yesterday at No. 16 Wall street, ex-Governor CLARK, President of the Association, in the chair.

The reports of the Corresponding Secretary and the Superintendent were read, by which it appears that the receipts of the past mouth were \$289.25, and the disbursement \$283 62; liabilities \$67.60; assets \$177.75. Number of persons assisted to go to the West, where situations had been provided \$25 males, 28 females. The Treasurer reported that he had examined the books and papers of the office and found them correct.

TEMPERANCE ANNIVERSARY

TEMPERANCE ANNIVERSARY.

Last evening the New-York Band of Hope and
"Samuel" Band of Hope, "two associations of juvenile tectotalers, held their anniversary and tea festival
at the Congregational Church, corner of Madison and
Governeur streets. Tables were set in the basement
of the church in the early part of the evening, and
several hundreds of young people there discussed
temperance matters over tea and sandwiches. After
the repast the party adjourned to the body of the
church, where addresses were delivered by Mr. JonaTHAN REVELL, NATHANIEL WRIGHT, Col. E. L. SNOW

and offers. Several acons were sung by the children.
According to the report of the Secretary, the Samuel
Pand of Hope numbers 800 pledged members, having
been established less than a year and a haif since.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE ELECTION OF

AMERICAN INSTITUTE ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Last evening the annual election of officers of this Institute took place, with the following result:

President—Robert L. Pell. Vice Presidents—William Hall, Edwin Smith, Benjamin Architz, Becorder Sourcitary—Henry Meige, Corresponding Socretary and Armat-Wom. B. Leonard, Treatmer—Robert T. Baraknows. Finance Committee—N. G. Bradford, B. Lewin, Pr. John M. Reed, John Gray, S. R. Comsteck, Mannerer of the Fair (term of office three vesse)—Sammel D. Barkus B. J. Hallmann, D. R. Japone, Char Turber, Wim. H. Butter, Wim. H. Adee, Jaa, C. Baldwin, Wim. Southell, Jan. J. Major, William Lawton, R. L. Waterbury, Committee on Astronomy Lawton, R. L. Waterbury, Committee on Commerce—Giram Dixon, Luther B. Wyana, Wim. H. South, John P. Veeder, John Distornell, Committee on Manufacture Science and Arti-John D. Ward, S. D. Tullman, Joseph Dixon, Thomas B. B. Bilman, Mendee Cohen, Committee on Manufacture Science and Arti-John D. Ward, S. D. Tullman, Joseph Dixon, Thomas B. B. Bilman, Mendee Cohen, Committee on the Admission of Members—Robert Levett, Hins Dixon, James P. Hall, John W. Chambers, Henry M. In. Committee on Committee on Hopping Committee on the Liberty—William Hibbard, D. Meredith Rosse, Raiph Lockwood, D. R. Japone W. H. Browner. Committee on Responding William R. Leonard, Archibald Johnston, Adred S. Bowen, James Prettice, Martin E. Thompson.

## CITY ITEMS.

We have had two cool days at last. Yesterday and the day before were very much tike Winter. The wind was violent for most of the time, and the city was buried in dust. It is the first really Winter temperature that has visited this part of the country this

takes his benefit, previous to his departure from the city. A bill of unusual attractiveness is offered. This is the last performance but one in New-York of this circus company, as they go immediately to Philadel-

EMBEZZIED.-From time to time during the last three years Messrs. F. S. Kirkland & Co. of No. 27 Park place have missed cloths, velvets, sids and other goods amounting in all, it is believed, to \$15,000 or \$20,000. Some days ago ex-Policemen Masterson was employed as a special detective to work up the case, and after watching about four or five days his suspicions fell upon a man named Charles Bestren, a Swede, who for the last three years has been employed in the cutting department. Mr. Masterson having oftained the necessary points, secured the services of Sergeant Lush of the Sixth Precinct, and on Wednesday night traced Bestren to his residence, No. 24 City Hall place, and arrested him and his wife. The premises were then searched, when remnants of silks and cloths to the value of \$300 were found, a portion of which has been identified by Messrs. Kirkland & Co. as property placed in the department where Bestren was employed. From further information received it was suspected that a German named Dalgreien, who about eighteen months since was employed as a cutter in the same establishment, but who now keeps a cap store at the corner of Duane and Hudson streets, was implicated in the embezzlement, and was manufacturing caps from the stolen silks and cloths. Dalgreien was also arrested. He confessed that he purchased rem-usnts of cloth and silk from Bestren and others in the employ of the same firm, but refused to tell who the others were. The accused were taken before Justice

CION OF BURGLARY .- Yesterday afternoon Officer Ferdon of the Ninth Precinct arrested two notorious characters named George Banker and Edward Van Orden under the following circumstances: The officer was standing on the corner of Bleecker and Morton streets when he saw the two men above named enter the jewelry store of Luther H. Buel, No. 261; Bleecker street. After the fellows left the store Mr. Buel informed the officer that he purchased from them the middle portion of a silver candlestick for twelve shillings. The officer then pursued Banker and Van Orden up Bloocker street to Charles, and down Charles to Hudson street, where they entered a car in which he (the officer) arrested them. While on the way to the Station-House, Van Orden threw away the lower pertion of the silver candlestick, but it was subsequently recovered. Banker was searched, and in his possession was found a silver thimble marked "A. L. R.," and several skeleton keys. In possession of Van Orden was found a piece of candle, a quantity of matches and the money that he had received from Buel for that portion of the candlestick above men-Quackenbush, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, and committed for examination. One of the prisoners said that he found the property in West Washington place, but no credit is given to his story. Both are

THE LATE KIDNAPPING CASE-REQUISITION AND CORRESPONDENCE.-Yesterday a requisition was received at the Mayor's Office from Governor King on the Governor of Virginia for the delivery of Mason Thomas, recently indicted here for kidnapping a New-York negro and selling him in Richmond. geant Croft and policeman McArthur, were dispatched for Richmond at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon to bring

FATAL SCUTTLE WHILE INTOXICATED .- On MODday evening last, John F. Burns, a man 26 years o age, become somewhat intoxicated, and while very jolly from the effects of the lanor he had imbibed, me on the corner of Watts and Greenwich streets an acquaintance named Patrick McCann, whom he seized apparently in a playful manner. They had a scuffle which resulted in both falling to the sidewalk, and Burns being underneath, struck his head on the pavement with great force. After the fall, a great hange was wrought in Burns, who became stupid, but t was thought little or nothing of, and attributed to the bad liquor he had taken. Officer McConnell of the Fifth Precinct was called and conveyed Burns to the Station-House, where he remained in a cell all night. Being worse instead of better, the following morning he was conveyed to the New-York Hospital by the advice of a physician. He continued to grow worse, and died soon after his admission to that institution. Coroner Perry held an inquest on the body. The testimony of two witnesses was taken, and clearly indicates that McCann did not willfully and maliciously cause the death of Burns.

Dennis Hagan, residing at No. 359 Greenwich street,

Dennis Hagan, residing at No. 569 Greenwich street, being drly sworn says—About 7: o clock on last Monday events I saw Burns at the corner of Watts and Greenwich streets; he appeared to be under the effects of liquor, so that he was dute merry; while dancing about he effects of liquor, so that he was dute merry; while dancing about he effects of liquor, so that he was dute merry; while dancing about he effects of liquor, so do good seling, and they had a serific they also sense and they had a serific they while so serificing they tell to the pavement, Burns undernesth, his head hitting the pavement; he appeared to be somewhat stupid from the effects of the blow, but as he had been drinking to a considerable extent, I paid no attention to the matter, he been ming more stupid, was conveyed to the Station-House by Officer McConnell. I regard the whole matter as an accidental thing and unintentional. ing and enintentional.

Peter M. Schenek, residing at No. 16 Harrison street,

Peter M. Schenek, residing at No. 16 Harrison street, being sworn says—I was well acquainted with Mr. Borns; I saw him a short time previous to the accident; he appeared to be in liquor; McCann was also in my stall; they left on good terms with each other; soon after theard of the accident; from what I can hear all sares that the injuries were accidentally received.

Or. Dash, House-Surgeon of the New-York Hospital, made a post mortem examination of the body; he found a fracture of the shull on the right side of the beat; and an extensive clot of blood over either hemisphere of the brain; the compression of the brain was the cause of death.

The case was then given to the Jury, who rendered

a verdict of death "by compression of the brain. caused by an accidental fall while wreatling with a friend named Patrick McCann, Feb. 8, 1858." Burns was a native of Ireland. CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED HOMICIDE AT TUBBY

Hook .- Yesterday afternoon Officer Latta, of the Lower Police Court, arrested John H. Watson, proprietor of a public house at Tubby Hook, on the upper part of the island, charged with feloniously assaulting John E. Huntington. The complainant, who is a carpenter, boarded at the house of Watson and had some difficulty with the latter in relation to certain money matters. At a late hour Tuesday evening the parties met in the bar-room when an altercation took place, and from words they came to blows. Watson, as is alleged, drew a knife, and during the affray stabbed his astagonist through the arm, the blade passing

within a few inches of his heart. The accused was taken before Justice Connolly at the Lower Poisso Court and committed for trial in default of \$1,000 bed.

Professor Naime of Columbia College, delivered his is-augural address, on Literature and Philosophy, at Morast Hall, Broadway, before a numerous and respectable audience. Prof. Naure, in his address, glanced at the history of literature and philosophy, and argued at great length, and with manifold illustrations. that true religion and sound philosophy are inseparable. The semi-annual exercises of the College take place at Hope Chapel at 10 o'clock this morning.

THE OPERA CONFANIES. The Philadelphia papers mention that on Wednesday night "Robert is Dipbie" was played at the Academy to a house of \$2,000. total receipts are stated to have been some \$16,000 being a clear profit of \$4,000 to \$10,000. To-sight Uliman's Company appear at Baltimore. These they Academy will open during the present morth with to-Maretrek Troupe, at present leaving Havana.

The following, in relation to holding parties respon-, ble for letting houses for gambling and other views was received yesterday by Mayor Tiemaan:

was received yesterday by Mayor Tesmans.

Mayor Tesmany-Door See: I proceed to be the city paper that you are making most parter when I have been I have been by the city paper that you are making most parter when do not prainted to making himself to the city down the saming himself of writing to you sucking some aggressions in ad a you in your police matters.

A few weeks and Braghanton was oversum with houses of promittellow and brile gaming not hipping bouns. I am a law you are an excity Marietake of Hambanton, having the side of the District-Attenties of course county, who is a bold energetif man. We made a dash upon these places of himself with the district attenties of our county, who is a bold energetif man. The last prosecution but before me as a magistrate. I wish to call your attention to parterial arity. It was said to behalf of the call your attention to parterial arity. It was said to behalf of the call your attention to parterial arity. It was a soil to behalf of the call your attention to parterial arity. It was a soil to behalf of the call and here previously rounded. Partix was charged with being a dissendedly person under the establish, as keeper of the house in question. After heaving the extellation of the accumulate of the house in question. After heaving the extellation of the house of the character of the house, receiving remain the proceeds arising or the character of the house, receiving remain the proceeds arising from those unfainful particles. I contricted the course of the dwelling in the character of the house, receiving remain the proceeds arising from those unfainful particles. I contricted the course of the dwelling in the last on the accumulation in a particle of the house are present to the problem.

Recorder Barnard, to whom it was shown by the Mayor agreed with it, and remarked that the magutrates of the city had known there was such a law, but

had sever attempted to apply it.

The People ast Edwin Parker.

The defendant, Edwin Parker, was brought before Justice Waterman on a charge of being a "disorderly pursuit was been and keeping of a house of Ill fame. George A Northrep, Durriet Attentey, appeared in behalf of the people; Other V. Hotchkan, con, het his defendant. The proceedings were under the statistic, assistst Parker is the sensor and fower of the house, knowing and assembling to the fact that it was kept as a books of procedulation.

afternoon Officer Gardner, attached to the Lower Po lice Court, apprehended a German named Herman Schwartz, charged with being daily in the habit of stopping persons in the vestibule of the Court and ascertaining the subject of their business with the magistrates. The officer preferred the charge, and made affidavit that Schwartz was continually hanging about the Court and intercepting women having business at the Court. Schwartz was taken before Justice Contolly, when he stated that he had been sent to the Court on an errand by Mr. Stewart. The magistrate reprimanded the accused and then set him at liberty, informing him at the same time that be shold still hold the affidavit against him in the event any other charge being preferred.

ARREST OF A BURGLAR, -On Wednesday afternoon the premises of Nicholas Cornell, dealer in fruits and calf skins in the building No. 46 Beaver street, were burglariously entered by means of forcing a padlock from the door, and about six dozen calf skins, of the value of \$200 and upward stolen therefrom, Mr. John H. Rinehott, an occupant of the same building, saw hree men on the afternoon in question coming down stairs with several bundles of leather on their shoulders, and with the assistance of Mr. Clarence Thayer, who was in the office at the time, stopped them. The men without ado dropped the leather on the stairway and ran into the street. Mr. Thayer pursued them, and succeeded in overtaking one of the party, named John Burke, whom he took to the Station-House and gave into custody of the police. The other fellows escaped, all efforts to overtake them proving unavailing. The accused was taken before Justice Oxborn at the Lower Police Court and committed to prison for trial.

A PASTRY-COOK IN TROUBLE. - A German, named Jules Sadler, late a pastry-cook in the Astor House, was arrested yesterday by Officer Kieider, charges with stealing silver ware, consisting of napkin-rings, forks, spoons, &c., from the hotel above named. Spitzler, keeper of a German boarding-house, was arrested, charged with receiving the stolen goods. Justice Brentan committed the accused to prison

REAL ESTATE.-The following sales of real estate were made yesterday at the Merchants' Exchange by A. J. Bleecker, Son & Co.:

A. J. Bleecker, Son & Co.:

3-story Philadelphia brick house and lot No. 254 West
44th st. lot 25x100.4.

3-story Philadelphia brick house and lot No. 256 West
44th-st. lot 25x100.4.

3-story Philadelphia brick house and lot No. 256 West
44th-st. lot 25x100.4; sold at private sale for.

4-story brick dwelling, brick workshop and lot on the N.

E. corner Horatio and Green-wich sts., lot 25 and 35x25.

2-story house and lot No. 125 Norfolk st., lot 25x10 No

MONTHLY REPORT of the Dispensaries of the City of New York for the Month of January, 1820.